



For Immediate Release:

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## Thomas Public Works Authority receives \$68,423 grant for wastewater system improvements

OKLAHOMA CITY – The Thomas Public Works Authority (Authority) in Custer County received approval for a \$68,423 Rural Economic Action Plan (REAP) grant Tuesday through the Oklahoma Water Resources Board (OWRB) to improve the Authority’s wastewater infrastructure.

The Authority will use the proceeds to replace approximately 1,430 feet of sewer line with 8-inch PVC sewer pipe and install five (5) manholes. The estimated cost of the project is \$129,115 to be funded by the OWRB REAP grant in the amount of \$68,423 and local funding of \$60,692.

Joe Freeman, chief of the OWRB's Financial Assistance Division, calculated that the grant will save the Authority’s customers \$109,400 in principal and interest charges by not having to borrow the project funds. Since 1983 the Water Resources Board has approved over \$5.8 billion in loans and grants for water and wastewater infrastructure improvements throughout Oklahoma.

“We are grateful to Senator Darcy Jech and Representative Anthony Moore for their continued support of water and wastewater infrastructure funding in Oklahoma,” said Julie Cunningham, OWRB Executive Director.

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